

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 10187 010847Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /058 W  
-----020475 010957Z/10

R 010816Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1853

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, RP  
SUBJECT: BOYCOTT OF CLASSES AT UP WINS CONCESSIONS

REF: MANILA 9866

1. STUDENT BOYCOTT OF CLASSES AT UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (UP) HAS WON CONCESSIONS FROM UP ADMINISTRATION ON CONTROVERSIAL TUTITION FEE INCREASE (SEE REFTEL). AFTER A WEEK OF PEACEFUL STUDENT PROTEST, UP BOARD OF REGENTS JUNE 30 RESCINDED INCREASE FOR MIDDLE CLASS STUDENTS. BOARD OF REGENTS ANNOUNCED THAT STUDENTS FROM FAMILIES WITH INCOMES BETWEEN 14,800 AND 30,000 PESOS/YEAR WILL BE GRANTED GRADUATED TUITION DISCOUNTS AND THAT STUDENTS IN THIS CATALOGY WHO HAD ALREADY PAID FULL INCREASE WILL GET REFUNDS. HOWEVER, STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES EARN MORE THAN 30,000 PESOS/YEAR MUST STILL PAY TUITION FEES UP 80-280 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR, DEPENDING UPON THE DEGREE PROGRAM.

2. PARTIAL ROLLBACK CAME ONE WEEK AFTER STUDENT ACTIVISTS ORGANIZED SUCCESSFUL JUNE 24 BOYCOTT OF CLASSES TO PROTEST TUITION INCREASE. BOYCOTT CONTINUED SPORADICALLY THROUGH PAST WEEK, WITH AT LEAST HAFL THE 20,000 STUDENTS AT UP SPURNING CLASSES. MANY STUDENTS INSTEAD ATTENDED SERIES OF TEACH-INS, SEMINARS, AND RALLIES IN WHICH STUDENT LEADERS AND

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FACULTY MEMBERS DENOUNCED TUITION HIKE. PROTESTS WERE NON-VILLENTE BUT VOLATILE, WITH UP ADMINISTRATORS AT ONE POINT BARELY ABLE TO RESTRAIN POLICE FROM MOVING IN TO BREAK UP CHANTING CROWD OF STUDENTS.

3. COMMENT: ROLLBACK OF TUITION INCREASE FOR SOME STUDENTS GIVES NO SATISFACTION TO LARGEST GROUP OF UP

STUDENTRY, NAMELY THOSE FROM WELL-OFF BUT NOT QUITE RICH FAMILIES. PARTIAL VICTORY OF UP STUDENT ACTIVISTS EARLY IN 1977-78 SCHOOL YEAR SEEMS LIKELY TO ENCOURAGE FURTHER PROTESTS AND CREATE NEW HEADACHES FOR MARCOS REGIME. INDEED, STUDENT LEADERS WERE QUOTED IN DAILY EXPRESS (WHICH REPORTED TUITION ROLLBACK ON FRANT PAGE JULY 1) AS SAYING BOYCOTT WILL CONTINUE TO PROTEST UNDEMOCRATIC AND ABRUPT MANNER IN WHICH TUITION INCREASE IMPOSED. STULL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOYCOTTS, STUDENTS  
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**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 MANILA 9866  
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**TAGS:** PINT, SEDU, PINS, RP  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009